

The Weston Common Valley Report

by the
*Southampton
Wildlife Link*



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The **Southampton Wildlife Link** is a voluntary body which meets monthly at the Civic Centre. It consists of representatives from the chief ecological and natural history groups in the area. Those groups are:

English Nature
Southampton Schools Conservation Corps
Southampton Natural History Society
Southampton Commons and Parks Protection Society
Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
British Trust for Ornithology
Broadlands Valley Conservation Group
British Butterfly Conservation Society
Hawthorns Wildlife Association
Sholing Valleys Study Centre Association
Hampshire Bat Group

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WESTON COMMON

The undeveloped remnant of old Weston Common is the valley that runs roughly south-westwards from the Bursledon Road to Botany Bay and then through Mayfield Park to Archery Road. The underlying rocks here are sands, silts and clays of the Bracklesham group, Tertiary formations. These not only determine the natural vegetation but have influenced the use of the land. Sand and clay have been widely exploited throughout the region and, although much evidence has been hidden under subsequent development, the results of sand extraction are still visible at Botany Bay and the clay soil below the old Butts Road brickworks shows a startling change of plants from the surrounding area. The open land has been used for grazing, horticulture and recreation and hence much of today's plant cover is the result partly of restitution, partly of natural regeneration.

The greatest change in land-use in recent years was the infilling of the old Miller's Pond and Botany Bay marsh with domestic refuse. The L-shaped pond was formed by the junction of the stream running through Weston Common with the spring from Sholing Common. The latter formed a natural barrier and ran clear over a gravel bed to the sluice at the bottom of Spring Road. On the other side there were reed-beds, fringed with willows, the home of swans

and water-rails (see note 1). For its size, the marsh was rich in species and it is highly improbable that, in today's climate of opinion, the citizens of Southampton would countenance its destruction. The Southampton Natural History Society had made a detailed study of the flora and when the threat to the area became unavoidable, steps were taken to remove the two rarest species to a safer habitat, as compatible as possible with the original. These were *Ludwigia palustris* (Hampshire Purslane), an extremely rare plant of acid fen, and *Butomus umbellatus* (Flowering Rush). (See Note 2 for the subsequent history of these transplants).

The contamination of the soil by refuse necessitated the piping underground of the two streams to their outfall beyond the Portsmouth Road into Mayfield Park. The raising of the ground-level resulted in an expanse of "dry" land between Botany Bay Road and Spring Road, an "interruption" which effectively divides the valley into three parts. Even so, the natural vegetation of the valley shows a remarkable consistency throughout its whole length.

A second drastic change in the aspect of the old Common occurred in the 'sixties when pasture and scrub-covered land between Kathleen Road and Butts Road was developed for housing, and the City acquired the remaining narrow valley as public open space with a walk-way downstream. Apart from the wet willow-scrub below Willow-tree Walk, much of the land was stripped, the stream-bed gouged out, and the banks cleared and reinforced where necessary to

support bridges, and paths laid. Some replanting beside the stream was done, and today the stream itself is hidden for much of its length. Natural vegetation has recovered, and aspen and alder sapling are spreading on to the open common, while below the older trees, Comfrey, ferns, Marsh Woundwort and Wavy Bittercress have reappeared, together with pondweed in the water.

Much of the grassland is kept mown, but patches of broom, gorse, bracken and heather recall the nature of the old Common. Here, as elsewhere throughout the valley, the turf supports the usual mixture of clovers, daisies, buttercups, Cat's-ear and Self-heal, plants which can withstand constant cropping. But where the sandy soil changes abruptly to clay, the ground is frequently water-logged at the bottom of the slope, and shows a change of vegetation which can tolerate such conditions. The most striking example of this is Sphagnum moss, along with rushes, reeds and Sneezewort (*Achilles ptarmica*). Repeated mowing is causing the loss of some of these plants; when the rushes and Ling (*Calluna vulgaris*) were left uncut, the distinctive air of this little area was more attractive.

As the stream descends towards Botany Bay, the valley bottom becomes water-logged throughout much of its length, the banks being shallow and muddy. Willow-scrub with Hemlock Water-dropwort dominates the ground cover, and this gives way, beyond North-east Road to a dense thicket of alders and willows which cuts out the light and prevents very little other growth. The Common here is accessible only on the eastern side, where a path runs through a strip of woodland on the higher ground to open, grassy areas.

The trees which favour the drier light soils here and throughout the valley, are oak, hawthorn, birch, holly, and elder, with an understorey of bracken, gorse, bramble and nettles. Unfortunately, Japanese Knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) is rapidly colonising the ground disturbed by pathlaying along the woodside, and should be eradicated at once. The open grassland which is mown shows little botanical interest compared with the rough turf with its more varied flora including the Musk Mallow, Fire-weed, Marsh Bird's-foot Trefoil, Hard Heads, Mouse-ear Chickweed, and dog roses in the thickets. The chief grass species are Rye Grass, Bent Grass, Crested Dogs Tail, Fescue and Cock's Foot. False Oat-grass prefers the path sides with Timothy and Foxtail and the ubiquitous Annual Meadow Grass. In ground disturbed by the paths "common weeds of cultivation" abound:- Pineapple weed (*Matricaria matricoides*), Cudweed (*Gnaphalium uliginosum*), Knotgrass (*Polgonum aviculare*) Swinegrass (*Coronopus didymus*) and Hemp Nettle (*Galeopsis tetrahit*). With Scarlet Pimpernel and Speedwell they are the first to colonise bare soil.

Some cherry trees (*Prunus avium*) have been planted here and some wild flower seeds sown, but it is doubtful if this last has materially effected the flora of the Common. Privet is probably an escape.

BOTANY BAY

Beside Station Road, lies another stretch of open ground reminiscent of the old common, with rough grass, brambles, broom, nettles and common weeds such as Yarrow (*Achillea millefolia*), Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) and Wormwood and Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*). Beyond is a stretch of woodland, once intersected by the Spring from Spring Road. On the higher ground, oaks, aspen, holly, hawthorn and sycamore dominate; below, the old marsh flora survives, alder and sallows and crack willows. There are innumerable muddy tracks through the woodland, where the ground flora is very poor, consisting largely of ivy and with clumps of male fern.

The land slopes sharply to the south west to the railway embankment that limited the old Miller's Pond. Although tipping raised the ground level, the course of the Spring remained below the level of the surrounding land, and here especially and along the line of the old Weston stream, new wetland soon developed when tipping stopped. A little marsh quickly revived amongst the surviving willows and alders, where water-rails continued to breed until the new pond was excavated. Water Forget-me-nots, Water Plantain and Bur-Reed rapidly colonised the bed of the Spring, and Water Crowfoot spread over muddy ground until this was overgrown with Iris, Greater Willow Herb, Water Dropwort and sapling willows.

It was not long before children were finding newts in damp stony patches in the middle of the tip, and today those patches are marked by clumps of mature willow (*Salix cinerea* and *S. capraea*) with young oaks, and brambles. Where the Weston Stream disappeared at Botany Bay Road the old marsh flora has reasserted itself in a wet, rushy dip with Common Reed, Great Willow Herb and Marsh Bird's-foot Trefoil and 5 species of rush (Jointed, Soft, Hard, Conglomerate and Sharp flowered). Below the railway embankment, willows continued to flourish and today there is a continuous belt of trees linking the oaks, beeches, and sycamores along the Portsmouth Road. Ground Ivy flourishes in the established hedgerow, and at the bottom of Spring Road there stands a very old False Acacia (*Robinia pseudacacia*).



Yellow
Loasetrife

The open tip site was left to recover naturally and where the top soil is thin and patchy wasteland weeds abound - Ribwort Plantain, Scarlet Pimpernel, Black Medic, Wormwood, Yarrow and a rather poor Soft Brome grass. Illegal grazing continues on the lush grass and does not improve the condition of the land or the public's enjoyment thereof.

MILLER'S POND

In 19778 the Southampton Schools Conservation Corps, realizing that the City Council's development plans for Botany Bay and Miller's Pond were unlikely to materialize, and that the degradation of the whole area was growing, set about the creation of a new Miller's Pond. Work started in November 1978, and by February 1979 a new pond of 120 m² was excavated and was rapidly filled by water from springs. The Corps tidied the banks, dealt with fallen trees, sowed grass seed and planted willows.

With the construction completed and the pond filled, regular sampling was undertaken and within a year the water was found to be rich in both plant and animal aquatic species. The range of marginal plants which reappeared (presumably from dormant seeds) was amazing. The pond became a very attractive feature with clear water occupied by floating pond weed and surrounded flowering plants. Mallards, moorhens and coots nested and dragonflies skimmed the water.

The grant from the Nature Conservancy Council (English Nature) for the re-creation of the pond enabled English Nature in the future to maintain an interest in it for a further five years. During that period, the pond remained relatively undisturbed.

In the middle 1980's the character of the pond was changed when fish were introduced into it. Fishermen / anglers began to occupy the banks and to "manage" the pond for their own purposes. The oxygenating submerged weed was dragged out, the banks were trodden down and pasted with mud. As a consequence of the lack of oxygen in the water, its quality was reduced and the aquatic invertebrates were affected. The marginal vegetation was greatly reduced.

As well as using the fishing platforms after 1990, fishermen also occupied all the banks which had been earmarked for nature conservation. The far eastern side of the pond remained relatively unchanged. One of the islands has thrived successfully. The emphasis on fishing since 1988 has remained and the aim of managing the pond's ecosystem for wild life has diminished. Fishermen have continued to manage the pond by removing weed and in 1990 the submerged weed was killed off by the introduction of a specific weed killer. The banks continued to be trampled and all the bankside vegetation has virtually disappeared. The 1989/1990 planting has thrived away from the pond but has not achieved the object of a thicket.

A fish survey carried out in 1991 by the National Rivers Authority (NRA) found nine species of fish present. Some had been introduced by the NRA. The findings of this Report were that the pond was a small but important fishery and that the fishing in the pond should not be prevented; also that fish stocks would benefit from a reduction in numbers to encourage growth rates and control parasites.

Now, Miller's Pond, in late summer of 1993, presents a very different picture from that of ten years ago. The water is cloudy and green, and there is no floating vegetation apart from water lilies. Trees are growing in the reed beds and a huge amount of dead leaves accumulating on the eastern side (furthest from the road) has reduced the available habitat area. Some silting has occurred but as the pond is only fed by springs and not streams, it is most likely that the organic matter in the pond has not broken down completely because of the lack of oxygenating plants in the water.

The oxygenating submerged weed and floating pond vegetation have been systematically removed by the anglers as mentioned above and this has led to the deterioration of the pond.

We understand that terrapins have been introduced into the water in the last few years and that these are now the "size of dinner plates", would this account for the lack of amphibians?

The fauna surveys are encouraging in that they show most classes of animals present, but the loss of some animals, notably snails and caddis fly, and the addition of tubifex worms shows a deterioration.

The marginal vegetation of the pond has deteriorated since it was recorded in 1983. This is due to several factors:

- being the growth of trees and leaf litter on the margins of the pond on the eastern side (farthest from the road).
- the space taken up by the official fishing platforms.
- the erosion of the banks by trampling on the western and northern sides
- the flooding of the western banks in time of heavy rainfall; this is due to the overflow drain being placed, in 1988, at a higher level than the previous drain.

When the pond is flooded the banks become a sea of mud. Although some marginals have been noted as present, there are very few plants.

Notes concerning Miller's Pond & Weston Common

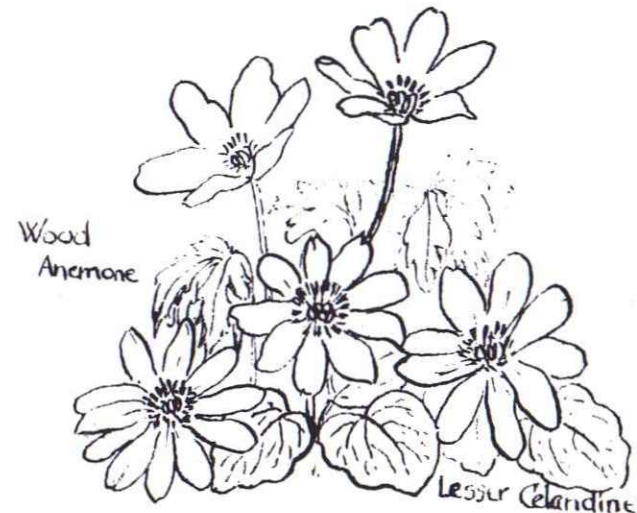
Note 1. In the 1950's when the BBC Children's Hour made a survey of swans nests nationwide, the Miller's Pond nest was duly recorded.

Note 2. Approved transplants, July 28th 1965

With the permission of Southampton Corporation, *Ludwigia palustris* was removed from mud and shallow water at the edge of Miller's Pond and transplanted to Nursling Gravel Pit. It had to be subsequently relocated and after thriving for several years was lost by the infilling of the gravel pit. At the same time *Butomus umbellatus* was also removed to Nursling where it survived until 1966 but disappeared thereafter, probably due to fluctuating water level.

Note 3: A full history of the old Miller's Pond and the development of the new can be found in the Survey of the Natural History of Major Southampton Ponds, published by the Southampton Wildlife Link, 1994.

Note 4: The Shoreburs walk now continues from Archery Road past Jurd's Lake to Victoria Road and Weston Shore, but is not included in the survey of Old Weston Common because there has been extensive clearance and landscaping.



MAYFIELD PARK

From the Portsmouth Road the valley-bottom gradually widens to a level floor at the lower end, where the stream spreads into several channels which frequently overflow and flood the marshy ground. The valley-sides are steep and well-wooded throughout. By the stream there is a very dense cover of willow and rhododendrons, where some sporadic clearance has been carried out in the past. Above, on the higher ground is a small beech-hanger behind Mayfield Gardens and bowling green. Recent storms have caused the loss of many fine trees, but regeneration is proceeding apace with plenty of beech saplings. Apart from these, little but wavy hair-grass and mosses grow beneath the beeches, but the area is a rewarding one for an autumnal fungus-foray.

Beyond the grounds of old Mayfield House, the parkland beside Weston Lane is managed for recreation, and the grass kept mown to the edge of the woodland. This is dry, deciduous woodland with a wide variety of native trees, oak, ash, beech, hornbeam, birches, cherry and naturalised sweet chestnut, and "parkland" trees such as Turkey oak, sycamore, and horse-chestnut. With a thick understorey of holly, brambles, sycamore saplings and the inevitable rhododendrons, it is in many places impenetrable.

The Ordnance Survey map of 1947 shows an estate-path running on the eastern side of the stream from Archery Road to the

Portsmouth Road, but though visible by the outfall, it had fallen into disuse and for many years the marsh and woodland here were impassable through fallen timber and accumulated debris. Of recent years the stream-bed has been cleared, and trees removed, but the only serviceable path through the valley is that from Archery Recreation Ground on the western side of the marsh to the foot bridge across the stream to the open park. Here the ground beside the path receives more light and so bears more wild flowers. In spring there is a carpet of lesser celandines with wood anemones, followed by bluebells, Garlic Mustard, Herb Bennet and Herb Robert, and overhead the cherry-blossom. In high summer the path is edged with Enchanter's Nightshade, Herb Robert, Valerian and sedges (*Carex pendula* and *Carex remota*). In the marshy ground by the water, Hemlock Water-dropwort flourishes to the exclusion of much else, but where there is more light and air under the willows, other water-loving plants such as Golden Saxifrage (*Chrysoplenium oppositifolium*), Marsh-Marigolds (*Caltha palustris*) and Lady's-smocks (*Cardamine pratensis*) flower in Spring. The lower end of the marsh has been colonised by Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*). Several species of fern flourish here:- Male Fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*), Lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), Broad-Buckler-fern (*Dryopteris dilatata*), Narrow Buckler-fern (*Dryopteris spinulosa*) and Hard-fern (*Blechnum spicant*).

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The "Weston Common" needs careful management. Mowing should be carefully controlled and a wide verge of uncut herbage left by the hedgerows and woodlands (i.e. no mowing to tree line) as recommended for Southampton Common.
2. Dilapidated "furniture", such as signposts and bins need to be removed or replaced. At present they are visual eyesores, which detract from the beauty of the valley.
3. Japanese Knotweed should be (by law) exterminated. Cutting back is a useless practise and the resultant litter looks bad. The path in some places is ruined by the Knotgrass.
4. Really boggy areas of Botany Bay and Weston Common should be left, partly to prevent human intrusion and the consequent wear and tear. We suggest that the stream from Portsmouth Road to the bridge below Mayfield Recreation Ground should be left to run as clearly as possible but the banks should not be changed in any way for access. There are plenty of paths above the stream and clearance of the Rhododendrons is improving the aspect of the valley in that area.

There is a suggestion from the Southampton City Council of another footpath across Botany Bay. The folly of this has been

discussed with the city ecologist as it is essential that the marsh flora is conserved. It is particularly scarce in the city and Miller's Pond is unlike Southampton Common in this respect.

There is a pressing need for some form of control over the intensive angling that occurs at Miller's Pond. Too many individuals are treating the water as a private preserve. Weed is removed both physically and by employing herbicides. Banks and bank vegetation have been destroyed and some protective fencing has been pulled down. One authority should be given the management of the area. The Council's plan suggests that local residents should be asked to look after their open spaces (see *Draft Plan of Open Spaces*). This is not really feasible as local people have not the necessary expertise.



APPENDIX 1 - Species Lists

FLORA

Acer campestre
Acer pseudoplatanus
Achillea millefolium
Achillea ptarmica
Aegopodium podagraria
Aethusa cynapium
Agropyron caninum
Agropyron repens
Agrostis canina
Agrostis gigantea
Agrostis stolonifera
Agrostis tenuis
Aira praecox
Alisma plantago-aquatica
Alliaria petiolata
Alnus glutinosa
Alopecurus geniculatus
Alopecurus pratensis
Anagallis arvensis
Anemone nemorosa
Angelica sylvestris

Field Maple
 Sycamore
 Yarrow
 Sneezewort
 Goutweed
 Fool's Parsley
 Bearded Couch-grass
 Couch-grass
 Brown Bent-grass
 Black Bent-grass
 Fiorin
 Common Bent-grass
 Early Hair-grass
 Water Plantain
 Garlic mustard
 Alder
 Marsh Fox-tail
 Fox-tail
 Scarlet Pimpernel
 Wood Anemone
 Angelica

Anisantha sterilis
Anthemis cotula
Anthriscus sylvestris
Anthyrium filis-faemina
Apium nodiflorum
Arabidopsis thaliana
Arctium minus
Armoracia rusticana
Arrhenatherum elatius
Artemisia vulgaris
Arum maculatum
Atriplex patula
Ballota nigra
Bellis perennis
Berula erecta
Betula pendula
Betula pubescens
Blechnum spicant
Brachypodium sylvaticum
Bromus mollis
Callitriche spp
Calluna vulgaris
Caltha palustris
Calystega sepium
Calystega sylvatica
Capsella bursa-pastoralis
Cardamine flexuosa

Barren Brome
 Stinking Mayweed
 Cow Parsley
 Lady-fern
 Fool's Watercress
 Thale Cress
 Burdock
 Horse Radish
 Oat grass
 Mugwort
 Cuckoo-pint
 Common Orche
 Black Horehound
 Daisy

 Silver Birch
 Birch
 Hard Fern
 Wood False-broome
 Lop Grass
 Water Star-wort
 Ling
 Marsh Marigold
 Bindweed
 Bindweed
 Shepherd's Purse
 Wood Bittercress

FLORA (continued)

<i>Cardamine hirta</i>	Hairy Bittercress	<i>Coronopus didymus</i>	Swine-cress
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Lady's Smock	<i>Corydalis claviculata</i>	Climbing Corydalis
<i>Cardaria draba</i>	Hoary Pepperwort	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Carex hirta</i>	Hairy Sedge	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Smooth Hawk's-beard
<i>Carex paniculata</i>	Tufted Sedge	<i>Crepis taraxifolia</i>	Beaked Hawk's beard
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous Sedge	<i>Cynosurus cristata</i>	Crested Dog's-tail
<i>Carex remota</i>	Remote Sedge	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's Foot
<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	Wood Sedge	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Carrot
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Hardheads	<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	Tufted hair-grass
<i>Centaureum minus</i>	Centaury	<i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i>	Wavy Hair-grass
<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	Sticky Mouse-ear Chickweed	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove
<i>Cerastium tetrandum</i>	Little Mouse-ear Chickweed	<i>Dryopteris australis</i>	Broad Buckler-fern
<i>Cerastium vulgare</i>	Mouse-ear Chickweed	<i>Dryopteris filis-mas</i>	Male fern
<i>Chaerophyllum temulentum</i>	Rough Chervil	<i>Dryopteris spinulosa</i>	Narrow Buckler-fern
<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i>	Fireweed	<i>Endymion non-scriptus</i>	Bluebell
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Fat Hen	<i>Epilobium adenocaulon</i>	American Willowherb
<i>Chenopodium polyspermum</i>	All-seed	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great Willowherb
<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>	Ox-eye Daisy	<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad-leaved Willowherb
<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>	Corn Marigold	<i>Epilobium obscurum</i>	Dull-leaved Willowherb
<i>Chrysosplenium oppositifolium</i>	Golden Saxifrage	<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Common Horsetail
<i>Cirsium dissectum</i>	Meadow Thistle	<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	Marsh Horsetail
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Bell Heather
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle	<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood Spurge
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Thistle	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	Hemlock	<i>Fagus sylvaticus</i>	Beech
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field convolvulus	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue
<i>Cornus sanguineus</i>	Dogwood	<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet
		<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn

FLORA (continued)

Fraxinus officinalis
Fumaria officinalis
Galeopsis tetrahit
Galium aparine
Galium cruciata
Galium mollis
Galium verum
Geranium dissectum
Geranium molle
Geranium robertianum
Geum urbanum
Glechoma hederacea
Glyceria declinata
Glyceria fluitans
Gnaphalium uliginosum
Hedera helix
Heracleum sphondylium
Hieracium perpropinquum
Hieracium pilosella
Holcus lanatus
Hordeum murinum
Humulus lupulus
Hydrocotyle vulgaris
Hypericum dubium
Hypericum perforatum
Hypochaeris radicata
Ilex aquifolium

Ash
 Fumitory
 Hempnettle
 Cleavers
 Crosswort
 Bedstraw
 Lady's Bedstraw
 Cut-leaved Cranes-bill
 Dove's foot Cranes-bill
 Herb Robert
 Herb Bennet
 Ground-ivy
 Sweet-grass
 Floating Sweet-grass
 Cudweed
 Ivy
 Hogweed
 Hawkweed
 Mouse-ear Hawkweed
 Yorkshire Fog
 Wall Barley
 Hop
 Marsh Pennywort
 Imperforate St. John's Wort
 Common St. John's Wort
 Cat's Ear
 Holly

Impatiens glandulifera
Iris pseudacorus
Juncus acutiflorus
Juncus articulatus
Juncus butonius
Juncus conglomeratus
Juncus effusus
Juncus inflexus
Lamium album
Lamium purpureum
Lathyrus pratensis
Lemna minor
Lemna polyrhiza
Leontodon autumnalis
Leontodon leysleri
Ligustrum vulgare
Linaria vulgaris
Lolium perenne
Lonicera periclymenum
Lotus corniculatus
Lotus uliginosus
Luzula campestris
Lycopus europaeus
Lythrum salicaria
Malus (domesticus) sp.
Malva mosehata
Malva sylvestica

Himalayan Balsam
 Iris
 Sharp-flowered Rush
 Jointed Rush
 Toad Rush
 Conglomerate Rush
 Soft Rush
 Hard Rush
 White Dead-nettle
 Red Dead-nettle
 Meadow Pea
 Duckweed
 Greater Duckweed
 Autumnal Hawkbit
 Lesser Hawkbit
 Privet
 Toadflax
 Rye grass
 Honeysuckle
 Bird's-foot Trefoil
 Marsh Bird's-foot Trefoil
 Field Woodrush
 Gipsy-wort
 Purple Loosestrife
 Apple
 Musk Mallow
 Common Mallow

FLORA (continued)

<i>Matricaria maritima</i>	Scentless Mayweed	<i>Polygonum amphibium</i>	Knotgrass
<i>Matricaria matricarioides</i>	Pineapple weed	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Water Pepper
<i>Matricaria recutita</i>	Wild Chamomile	<i>Polygonum hydropiper</i>	Pale Persicaria
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	<i>Polygonum lapathifolium</i>	Persicaria
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	Melilot	<i>Polygonum persicaria</i>	Aspen
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water-mint	<i>Populus tremens</i>	Broad-leaved pondweed
<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Annual Mercury	<i>Potamogeton natans</i>	Tormentil
<i>Myosotis palustris</i>	Water Forget-Me-Not	<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Cinquefoil
<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Water-cress	<i>Potentilla repens</i>	Self-heal
<i>Nuphar lutea</i>	Yellow Water Lily	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Plum
<i>Odontites verna</i>	Red Bartsia	<i>Prunus (domestica) sp.</i>	Wild Cherry
<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	Hemlock Water-dropwort	<i>Prunus avium</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Ononis repens</i>	Restharrow	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Bracken
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Poppy	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Pedunculate Oak
<i>Peplis portula</i>	Water Purslane	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Meadow Buttercup
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canary-grass	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Bulbous Buttercup
<i>Phleum nodosum</i>	Cat's-tail	<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Lesser Celandine
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Timothy Grass	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Ivy-leaved Crowfoot
<i>Phragmites communis</i>	Common Reed	<i>Ranunculus hederaccus</i>	Creeping Buttercup
<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>	Hart's Tongue	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Celery-leaved Buttercup
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scot's Pine	<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	Wild Radish
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Japanese Knotgrass
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	<i>Reynoutia japonica</i>	Yellow Rattle
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Poa	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Rhododendron
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Meadow Grass	<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	Red Currant
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough-stalked Meadow Grass	<i>Ribes sylvestre</i>	False Acacia
<i>Polygonatum multifolium</i>	Solomon's Seal	<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	Marsh Watercress
		<i>Rorippa islandica</i>	

FLORA (continued)

<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Mountain Ash
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Bramble	<i>Sparganium ramosum</i>	Branched Burreed
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Raspberry	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	Corn Spurrey
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Sorrel	<i>Spergularia rubra</i>	Sand Spurrey
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's-bit Sorrel	<i>Stachys palustris</i>	Marsh Woundwort
<i>Rumex conglomeratus</i>	Clustered Dock	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock	<i>Stellaria alsine</i>	Bog Stitchwort
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	Lesser Stitchwort
<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	Pearlwort	<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater Stitchwort
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Sallow	<i>Stellaria media</i>	Chickweed
<i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack Willow	<i>Symphoricarpos rivularis</i>	Snowberry
<i>Salix viminalis</i>	Osier	<i>Symphytum officinale</i>	Comfrey
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Tansy
<i>Sarothamnus scoparius</i>	Broom	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion
<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>	Knotted Figwort	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Wood Sage
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Wall-pepper	<i>Tilia europaea</i>	Common Lime
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Ragwort	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goat's-beard
<i>Senecio squalidus</i>	Oxford Ragwort	<i>Trifolium arvense</i>	Hare's-foot Clover
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil
<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	Charlock	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	Alsike Clover
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	Golden rod	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover
<i>Solidago x hybrida</i>		<i>Trifolium striatum</i>	Knotted Clover
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	Field Sow-thistle	<i>Trifolium subterranean</i>	Subterranean Clover
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Sow-thistle	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Colt's-foot
<i>Sorbus aria</i> sp.	Whitebeam	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Bulrush
		<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse

FLORA (continued)

<i>Ulmus procera</i>	Elm
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettles
<i>Valerian officinalis</i>	Great Valerian
<i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i>	Water Spearwell
<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	Wall Speedwell
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Brooklime
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell
<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	Ivy-leaved Speedwell
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Bauxbaum's Speedwell
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose
<i>Vicia angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Vetch
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch
<i>Vicia hirta</i>	Hairy Tare
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch
<i>Vicia tetrasperma</i>	Four-seeded Vetch
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common Violet
<i>Zerna ramosa</i>	Hairy or Wood Brome

Introduced to Miller's Pond without success:

<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	Flowering-rush
<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	Frogbit
<i>Stratiodes aloides</i>	Water-soldier

BRYOPHYTA

Mosses

Amblystegium serpens
Atrichum undulatum
Aulacomnium androgynum
Barbula convoluta
Brachythecium velutinum
Dicranella heteromalla
Eurynchium praelongum
Fissidens taxifolius
Funaria hygrometrica
Hypnum cupressiforme
Hypnum var. filiforme
Isoetecium myosuroides
Leucobryum glaucum

Liverworts

Lunaria cruciata
Lophocolea cuspidata
Pellia epiphylla



Broom

FUNGI for Weston Common

Clitocybe clavipes
Clitocybe nebularis
Collybia butyracea
Cortinarius purpurascens
Flammulina velutipes
Helvella crispa
Laccaria amethystea
Laccaria laccata
Lepista nuda
Mycena galopus candida
Mycena pura
Pholiota mutabilis
Rhytisma acerinum
Tremella mesenterica

FUNGI records for Mayfield Park

Agaricus variegans
Agaricus augustus
Agrocybe semi-orbicularis
Amanita citrina
Amanita excelsa
Amanita fulva
Amanita rubescens
Armillaria mellea
Auricularia mesenterica
Bjerkandera adusta
Boletus badius
Boletus chrysenteron
Boletus edulis
Boletus parasiticus
Bulgaria inquinans
Calocera cornea
Calocera viscosa
Cantharellus cibarius
Clitocybe flaccida
Clitocybe nebularis
Clitocybe vibecina
Collybia fusipes
Collybia peronata
Coniophora puteana
Coprinus micaceus
Coprinus plicatilis

FUNGI (continued)

Coriolus hirsutus
Coriolus versicolor
Daldinia concentrica
Daedalea quecina
Entoloma sinuatum
Fistulina hepatica
Exidia albida
Fomes fomentarius
Ganoderma adpersum
Grifola gigantea
Hebeloma crustuliniforme
Hebeloma longicaudum
Helvella crispa
Heterobasidion annosum
Hygrophorus strangulata
Hymenoscyphus fructigenus
Hypholoma fasciculare
Inocybe auricoma
Inonotus cuticularis
Inonotus dryadeus
Laccaria amethystea
Laccaria laccata
Lactarius quietus
Lactarius turpis
Lepiota rhacodes
Lepista nuda
Lycoperdon perlatum

Marasmius oreades
Mycena alcalina
Mycena capillaria
Mycena flavo-albus
Mycena galericulata
Mycena galopus
Mycena haematopus
Mycena pura
Mycena speiria
Mycena tererrima
Nectria cinnabarina
Panellus stipticus
Paxillus involutus
Paxillus panuoides
Pleurotus ostreatus
Pluteus cervinus
Pluteus salicinus
Psathyrella hydrophilum
Psathyrella lacrymabunda
Pseudotrametes gibbosa
Russula laurocerasi
Russula mairei
Russula ochroleuca
Russula soraria
Scleroderma citrinum
Stereum gausapatum
Stereum hirsutum
Stereum purpureum

FUNGI (continued)

Tremella mesenterica

Tricholomopsis rutilans

Vascellum pratense

Xylaria carpophila

Xylaria hypoxylon

F AUNA

BIRDS

Collared Dove
Tawny Owl
Green Woodpecker
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker
Starling
Magpie
Jay
Wren
Robin
Blackbird
Song Thrush
Mistle Thrush
Blue Tit
Coal Tit
Long-tailed Tit
Nuthatch
Tree Creeper
House Sparrow
Tree Sparrow

Chaffinch
Greenfinch
Siskin
Sparrowhawk
Mallard
Kestrel
Wood Pigeon
Dunnock
Bullfinch
Jackdaw
Rook
Blackcap
Coot
Moorhen
Heron
House Martin
Swallow
Swift
Meadow Pipit
Sky Lark
Serin
Great spotted woodpecker
Redpoll
Goldcrest
Nightingale

In the summer, Chiff-chaff, Willow warbler and others visit the area.

MAMMALS

Roe Deer
Munjac
Fox
Grey Squirrel
Pipistrelle Bat
Bank Vole
Pigmy Shrew
Hedgehog
Mole
Long-tailed field (Wood) Mouse
Yellow-necked Mouse
Common Shrew
Brown Rat

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES

Common Lizard
Slow Worm
Common Toad
Common Frog
Smooth Newt
Palmate Newt

ARTHROPODA

Insects

Small White
Large white
Green-veined White
Small Copper
Meadow Brown
Gatekeeper
Ringlet
Speckled Wood
Holly Blue
Comma
Red Admiral
Peacock
Small Tortoiseshell
Orangetip
Brimstone
Large Skipper
Dingy Skipper
Small Skipper

Lepidoptera -Butterflies

Artogeia rapae
Pieris brassicae
Artogeia napi
Lycaena phlaeas
Maniola jurtina
Pyronia tilhonus
Aphantopus hyperantus
Pararge aegeria
Celastrina argiolus
Polygonia c-album
Vanessa atalanta
Inachis io
Aglais urticae
Anthocharis cardamines
Gonepteryx rhamni
Ochlodes veneta
Erynnis tages
Thymelicus sylvestris

Moths

Cinnabar moth
Six-spot Burnet
Elephant Hawk
Garden Tiger Moth
Callimorpha jacobaeae
Zygaena filipendulae
Deilephila elpenor
Arctia caia

Vapourer Moth	<i>Orgyia antiqua</i>
Oak Egger	<i>Lasiocampa quercus</i>
Silver Y	<i>Plusia gamma</i>
Heart and Dart	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>
Large Yellow Underwing	<i>Triphaena pronumba</i>
Browntail Moth	<i>Euproctis chryorrhoea</i>

The following records were taken using an ultra-violet light based at
Archery Grove, Mayfield

Alder moth	<i>Acronicta alni</i>
Brimstone Moth	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>
Common Marbled Carpet	<i>Chloroclysta truncata</i>
Double-striped Pug	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>
Garden Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>
Grey Dagger	<i>Acronicta psi</i>
Iron Prominent	<i>Notodonata dromedarius</i>
Knotgrass	<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>
May Highflyer	<i>Hydriomena impluviata</i>
Mottled Pug	<i>Eupithecia exiguata</i>
Pale Prominent	<i>Pterostoma palpina</i>
Pebble Hook Tip	<i>Drepana falcata</i>
Peppered Moth	<i>Biston betularia</i>
Scalloped Hook Tip	<i>Falcaria lacertinaria</i>
Setaceous Hebrew Character	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>
	<i>Agrostis puta</i>
	<i>Charanyca trigrammica</i>
	<i>Agrostis segetum</i>

Odonata (Dragonflies)

Common Blue Damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigeran</i>
Common Red Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>
Azure Hawker	<i>Aeshna cyanea</i>
Broad-bodied Libellula	<i>Libellula depressa</i>

Diptera (True Flies)

Cranefly	<i>Tipula maxima</i>
Mosquito	<i>Anopheles maculipennis</i>
Mosquito	<i>Culex pipiens</i>
Beefly	<i>Bombilius major</i>

Coleoptera (Beetles)

Ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>
Violet longhorned beetle	<i>Callidium violaceum</i>
Ground Beetle	<i>Harpalus aeneus</i>
Stag Beetle	<i>Lucanus cervus</i>
Green Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela campestris</i>
Wood Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela sylvatica</i>

Hemiptera (True bugs)

Shield bug	<i>Picromeris bidens</i>
Shield bug	<i>Palomina prasina</i>

Hymenoptera (Bees & Wasps)

Bumble bee, Red-tailed	<i>Bombus lapidarius</i>
Bumble bee, Buff-tailed	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>
Early mining bee	<i>Andrena albicans</i>
Common Wasp	<i>Vespula vulgaris</i>
Tree Wasp	<i>Dolichovespula sylestris</i>
Hornet	<i>Vespa crabro</i>
Black Garden Ant	<i>Lasius niger</i>
Yellow Ant	<i>Lasius flavus</i>

Orthoptera (Grasshopper & Crickets)

Earwig	<i>Forficula auricularia</i>
Great Green Bush-cricket	<i>Tettigonia viridisma</i>
Meadow grasshopper	<i>Chorthippus parallus</i>
Common Field grasshopper	<i>Chorthippus brunneus</i>

Arachnida

Garden Spider	<i>Araneus diadematus</i>
	<i>Tetragnatha extensa</i>
	<i>Linyphia triangularis</i>
Crab Spider	<i>Misumena watia</i>
Wolf Spider	<i>Pisaura mirabilis</i>
Zebra Spider	<i>Salticus scenicus</i>
Wolf Spider	<i>Paradosa amentata</i>
Harvestman	<i>Leiobunum rotundum</i>
Harvestman	<i>Phalangium opilio</i>

Myriapoda

Centipede	<i>Lithobius forficatus</i>
Centipede	<i>Lithobius variegatus</i>
Millipede	<i>Cylindroiulus londinensis</i>

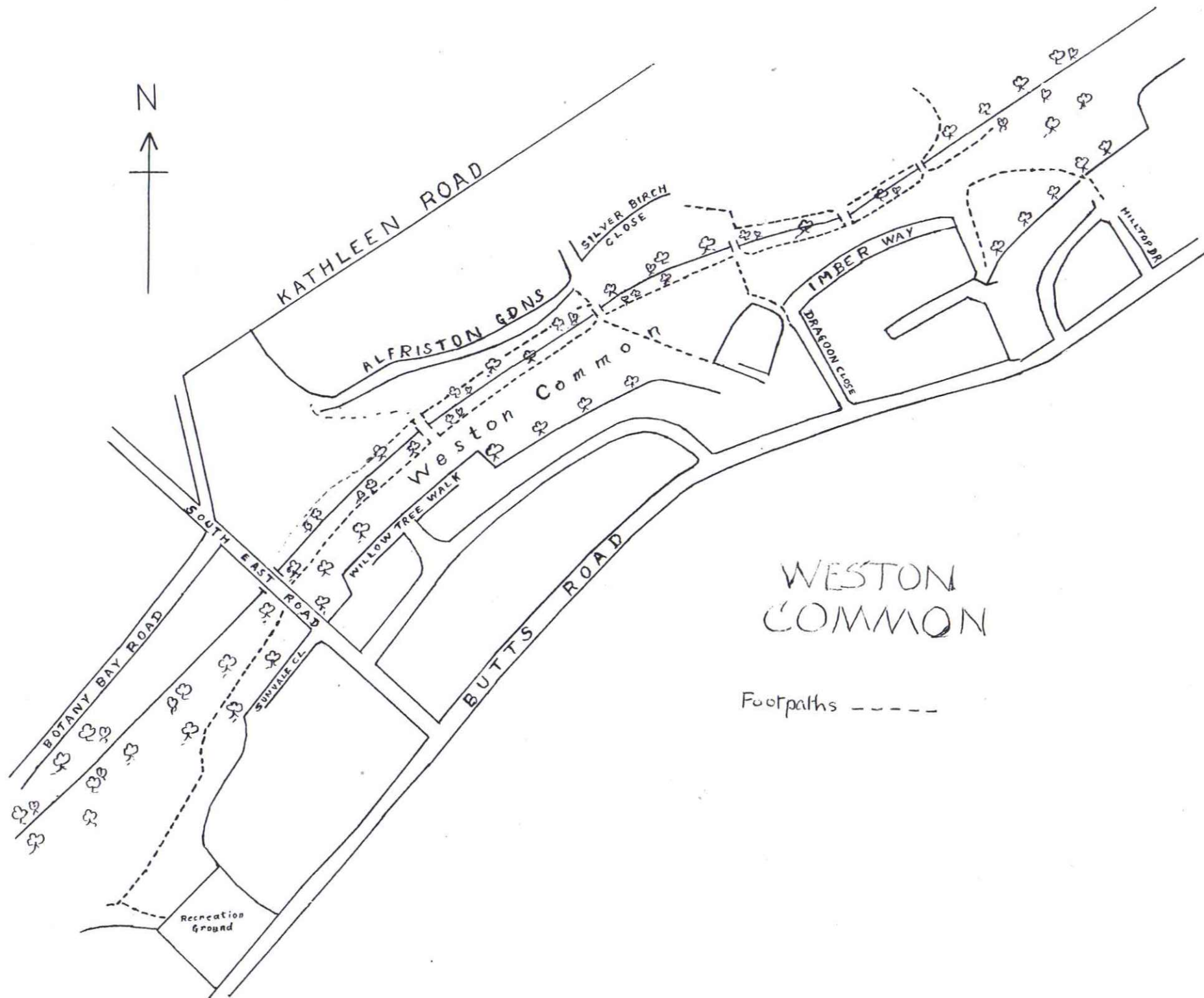
Crustacea

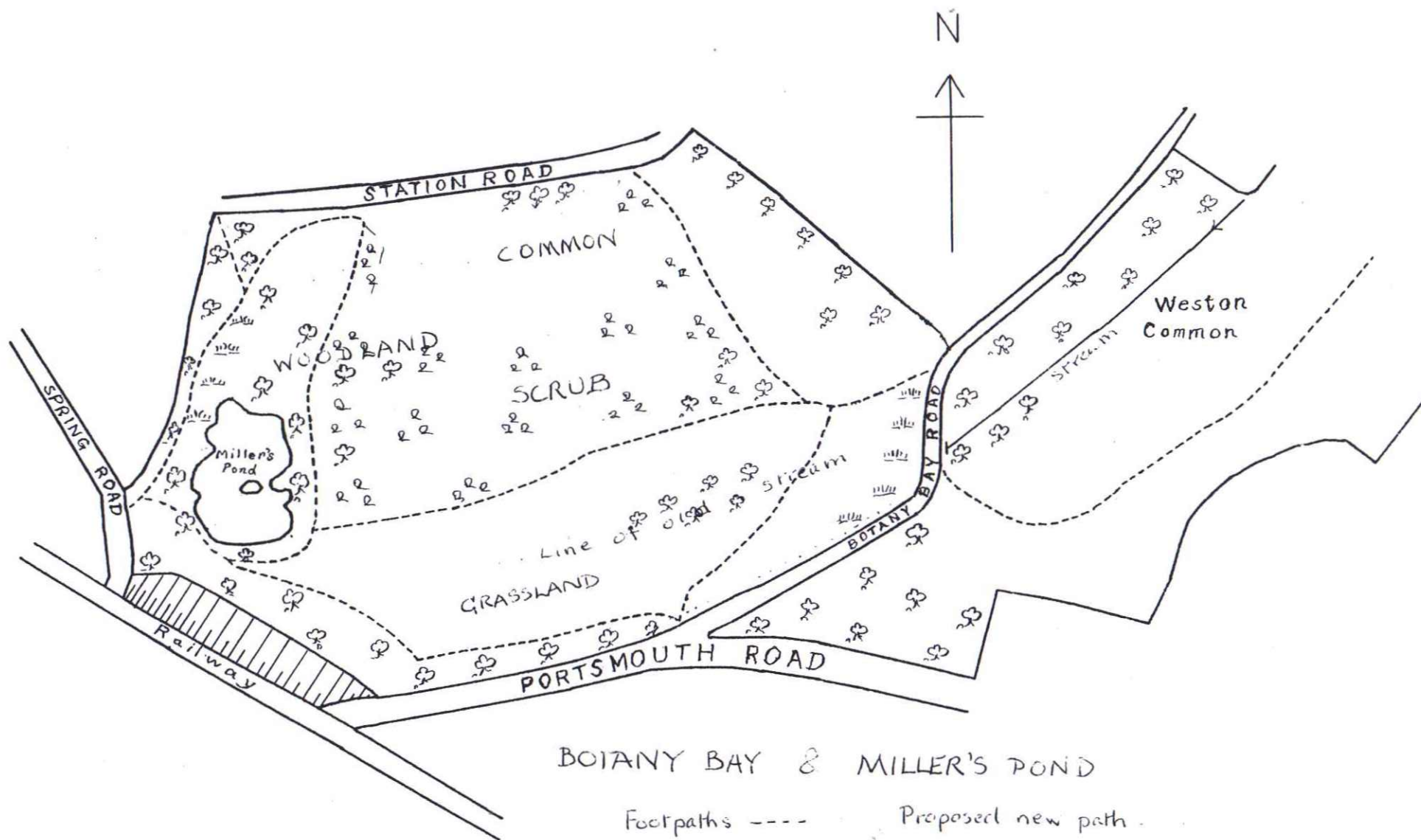
Wood louse	<i>Oniscus asellus</i>
Wood louse	<i>Porcellio scaber</i>

MILLER'S POND. SMALL FRESH WATER FAUNA 1993

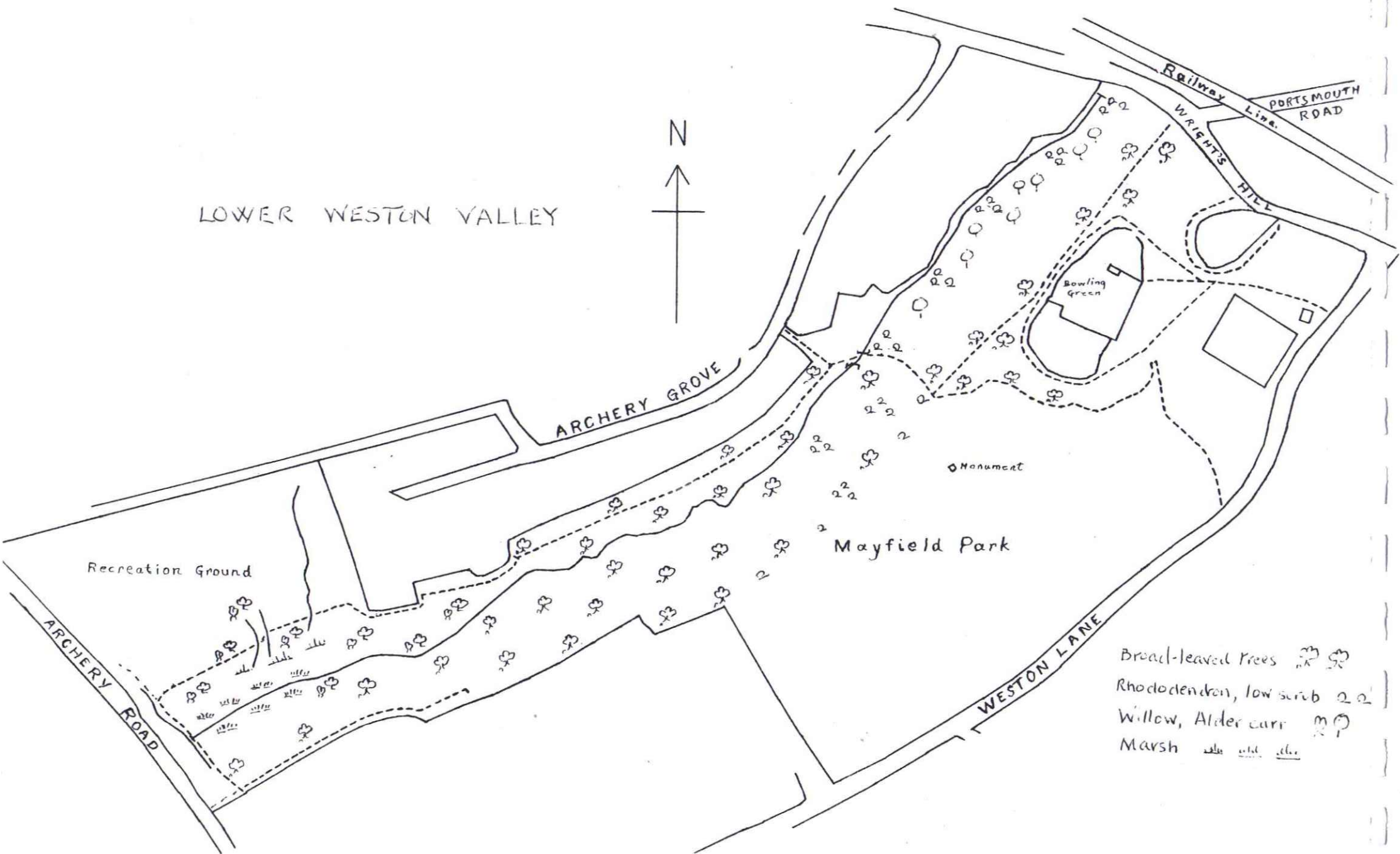
Tubifex worms			
Leeches (numerous)			
Water fleas	<i>Daphnia</i> Sp.		
Copepods	<i>Cyclops</i> Sp.		
Water slater	<i>Asellus aquaticus</i> (very abundant)	Blood worms	<i>Chironomus</i> 2 Sp. abundant.
		Caddis flies	
Freshwater shrimp	<i>Gammarus pulex</i>		
Damsel flies	<i>Coenagrion</i> Sp.. Larvae & adults	<i>Clubiona</i> spider on vegetation	
Dragon flies	<i>Aeshna cyanea</i> & other spp. Larvae and adults	Stickleback; Frog tadpoles	
Mayfly sp.	Larvae		
Water measurer	<i>Hydrometra</i> Sp..		
Water scorpion	<i>Nepa</i> Sp.		
Backswimmer	<i>Notonecta</i> Sp. Nymphs & adults		
Water boatman	<i>Corixa</i> Sp. Adults		
Water beetles	Great Diving beetle <i>Dytiscus</i> Larvae and adults		
	Great Silver beetle		
	<i>Hydrophilus</i> sp. Adults		
Midges	<i>Culex pipiens</i>		

APPENDIX 2 - Maps





LOWER WESTON VALLEY



- Broad-leaved trees
- Rhododendron, low scrub
- Willow, Alder curr
- Marsh

We apologise for all errors and omissions.

Cover Photographs

Front Cover *Top: A Male Southern Aeshna Dragonfly emerging from its larva
(by Julian Cremona)*

Bottom: Marsh Marigold in flower (by Julian Cremona)

Back Cover: *Photographs taken of school children working at the Sholing Valley Centre (by Doris Day)*

